

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AGR-20 SWF-02 IO-14 FEA-02

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 OMB-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 EA-11 EUR-25 /228 W

----- 009657

R 132102Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3810

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, MX, GT

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON MEAT

REF: MEXICO 7572

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1. AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION COMPRISING DR. STUART HARRIS, DEPUTY SECRETARY, AND GRAHAM THOMPSON, DIRECTOR COMMODITY POLICY FOR LIVESTOCK OF GOA DEPT. OVERSEAS TRADE AND AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES MET SEPT. 6 WITH RETA PETTERSSON, SUBSECRETARY LIVESTOCK, SAG TO DISCUSS INTERNATIONAL MEAT MEETING PROPOSED BY AUSTRALIA. MEETING ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF GOM FINANCE MINISTRY  
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AND FOREIGN RELATIONS.

2. ACCORDING AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE, WHOSE ACCOUNT OF MEETING WITH MEXICANS AS FOLLOWS, RESULTS OF MEETING VERY DISCOURAGING TO AUSTRALIANS. MEXICANS SEEMED PREOCCUPIED WITH DESIRE TO BE REPRESENTED ALL INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS RATHER THAN DISCUSS OBJECTIVES OF PROPOSED MEETING AT TECHNICAL LEVEL. MEXICANS UNABLE OFFER SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION DURING MEAT MEETING BUT VOICED STRONG CONCERN THAT MEXICO/C.A. SHOULD BE REPRESENTED AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE SINCE THEY EXPORT CONSIDERABLE VOLUME MEAT TO INTERNATIONAL MARKET AND BELONG TO "THIRD WORLD." MEXICANS ALSO PUSHED HARD FOR SEPARATE DELEGATIONS REPRESENTING MEXICO AND C.A. BUT AUSTRALIANS DID NOT YIELD ON ISSUE. AT CLOSE OF MEETING MEXICANS SUGGESTED DR. HARRIS RETURN FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS FOLLOWING HIS VISIT TO ARGENTINA. HARRIS EXPECTED FINISH WORK IN ARGENTINA SEPT. 13. HE AGREED RETURN PROVIDED MEXICO WOULD PRODUCE LIST OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION. THIS HAS NOT BEEN DONE AND HARRIS DOES NOT CURRENTLY PLAN RETURN TO MEXICO.

3. DURING CHANCE MEETING SEPT. 11 BETWEEN AGATT AND PEDRO SOLANA MARTAGON, GENERAL DIRECTOR LIVESTOCK, MEXICAN SECRETARIAT AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK, SOLANA GAVE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF MEXICAN/AUSTRALIAN MEETINGS: MEXICANS DISAPPOINTED AT RESULTS OF MEETING. RETA ASKED EARLY IN MEETING IF MEXICO AND/OR C.A. INVITED TO PARTICIPATE AND HARRIS REPLIED NEGATIVE. MEXICANS TOOK VIEW THAT IF THEY NOT INVITED THEN NOT MUCH LEFT TO DISCUSS. THEY INDICATED THAT MEXICO AND C.A. WANTED PARTICIPATE HOPEFULLY AS SEPARATE DELEGATIONS BUT IF ONE MEXICO/C.A. INVITATION EXTENDED MEXICO WOULD TRY REACH ACCORD WITH C.A. FOR JOINT PARTICIPATION. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

4. MEETING BETWEEN MEXICAN/CENTRAL AMERICAN MINISTERS AGRICULTURE IN MEXICO OUTLINED PARA 3 REFTEL MOVED UP TO SEP. 9. MEETING HELD AT FOREIGN RELATIONS OFFICE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOLLOWING IS ROUGH TRANSLATION IN SUMMARY FROM SEVERAL ARTICLES APPEARING IN LOCAL MEXICO CITY DAILIES SEPT. 10:

INAUGURATION SPEAKERS OF HONOR - PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, FOREIGN MINISTER E. RABASA

PARTICIPANTS -

MEXICAN DELEGATION: LIC. RAMON BETEA, UNDERSECRETARY OF

FINANCE; LORENZO MARTINEZ MEDINA, UNDERSECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE; GUSTAVO RETA PETTERSSON, UNDERSECRETARY OF LIVESTOCK; MARIO ESPINOSA DE LOS REYES, CHIEF OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (FOREIGN OFFICE); SALVADOR MAYORGA, CNG LEADER; VARIOUS OTHER OFFICIALS OF SECRETARIATS OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK, OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, OF FINANCE AND OF FOREIGN OFFICE, REPRESENTATIVES OF PRIVATE SECTOR AND "EXPERT-TECHNICIANS."

FOREIGN DELEGATION: OFFICIALS REPRESENTING CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND PANAMA, INCLUDING FOLLOWING AGR. MINISTERS: DR. ROBERTO SACHRICCON OF GUATEMALA; MAURICIO CASTILLO SALAVERRIA OF EL SALVADOR; ING. EDGARDO ESCOTO OF HONDURAS; ING. NOEL SOMARRIBA BARRETO OF NICARAGUA; ING. HERNAN GARRON OF COSTA RICA AND LIC. GERARDO GONZALEZ BERNAZA OF PANAMA.

#### CONSENSUS

THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE MEETING AGREED ON THE URGENT NEED TO AUGMENT MEAT CONSUMPTION, INDICATING THAT ALL PRODUCER COUNTRIES ARE SIMILARLY AFFECTED BY EUROPEAN AND JAPANESE MEAT IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AS WELL AS BY THE DECLINE OF U.S. MARKET PRICES. THEREFORE, IT WAS AGREED AT THE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE NEED FOR ALL MEAT PRODUCING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA TO ADOPT MECHANISMS GUARANTEEING STABLE AND REMUNERATIVE MARKET PRICES.

DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETINGS, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE APPROVED:

TO RAPIDLY AUGMENT DOMESTIC MEAT CONSUMPTION AND TO DIVERSIFY FOREIGN MARKET OUTLETS.

TO ESTABLISH A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION OF BEEF PRODUCER-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPORTER COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SCHEMES

TO DESIGNATE A TECHNICAL GROUP IN CHARGE OF STUDYING AND ANALYZING PRODUCTION AND MARKETING CONDITIONS IN CONSUMER COUNTRIES AS WELL AS THE BEHAVIOR OF INTERNATIONAL PRICES.

TO PROPOSE ANOTHER CONSULTING MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE FUTURE IN ORDER TO EXCHANGE VIEWPOINTS AND INFORMATION BETWEEN THE 17 L.A. COUNTRIES AND TO UTILIZE MODERN TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE WITH OTHER NATIONS, IN AN ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH AN INTEGRATED L.A. COMMON FRONT AFTER COMPLETING EXHAUSTIVE TECHNICAL STUDIES.

TO ESTABLISH A "CENTRAL GRAIN BANK" TO SUPPLY FEEDS TO

ALL PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. (A SIMILAR MEETING ON CORN, RICE AND BEANS WILL BE HELD LATER IN CENTRAL AMERICA, IN ORDER TO SET UP THE ABOVE PROJECT).

OTHER STATEMENTS

CENTRAL AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS NOTED THEIR INABILITY TO FULFILL THEIR MEAT DELIVERY EXPECTATIONS IN 1974 DUE TO SHORTAGES CAUSED BY A DROUGHT SITUATION. THEY ALSO MENTIONED INCREASED USE OF SOYBEANS AS MEAT SUBSTITUTE IN THE U.S. AND RESULTANT DECREASE IN MEAT CONSUMPTION.

MEAT PRICES ARE EXPERIENCING AN UPWARD TREND INASMUCH AS WORLD DEMAND IS IN EXCESS OF SUPPLIES. THE DISORDERLY BEHAVIOR OF INTERNATIONAL MARKET PRICES, A LACK OF APPROPRIATE SANITARY STANDARDS AND THE EXISTENCE OF EPIDEMICS ACCOUNT FOR AN IMBALANCE IN THE GENERAL MARKET PRICE OUTLOOK.

FAO PROPOSED TO LET PRODUCERS PARTICIPATE IN THE REVISION AND DETERMINATION OF MARKET PRICES AND OF SANITARY AND QUALITY STANDARDS, IN AN ATTEMPT TO CONTROL ARBITRARY COMPETITION AND TO RESTRUCTURE THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET. HOWEVER, THE IDEA HAS FAILED TO APPEAL TO THE CONSUMER COUNTRIES. BRANDIN

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## Message Attributes

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